VOICE OF INDUSTRY.

VOL. 1. ORGAN OF THE NEW ENGLAND WORKINGMEN'S ASSOCIATON. NO. 23.

W. F. YOUNG, Editor. LOWELL, MASS., FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 21, 1845. GAGE & CLOUGH, Printers.

VOICE OF INDUSTRY,
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY,
AT NO. 76, CENTRAL ST., LOWELL, MASS.
BY THE
N. E. WORKINGMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

WM. F. YOUNG, SARAH G. BAGLEY, JOEL HATCH, } PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

TERMS:—$1,00 In Advance.

☞ All Communications should be directed (POST PAID,) to the Voice of Industry.

Poetry.

From the Factory Tract.

A LESSON FROM THE WIND.

Ay, thou hast taught us many a tale,
Since first the world began;
From mount and vale and hill and plain,
Hath thy strange tidings ran.

Thou hast heralded the near approach,
Of famine, want and war;—
The pestilence and plague looked forth
From thy triumphal car.—

And strong High hearts, looked proudly on,
And children quailed in fear,
As the rushing sound of the warrior's hosts,
And their trampling steeds drew near.—

Whence comest thou—where hast thou been,
Through the long Autumn day?
"I have wandered far o'er hill and plain,
Where the bright waters stray."

What hast thou seen since the morning broke,
Mid the changing scenes of earth;
Hast thou lingered where sorrow roams,
Or dwelt with smiles of mirth?

"Ask of the monarch on his throne,
The captive in his cell;
The kindled brow of the conqueror,
And the exile long may tell.

But not of these, my not of these,
Are the noblest strains I bear.
For I waft along, on each morning breeze
The voice of the young and fair.

Ay, tyrant 'tis a battle cry;
Thou well hast cause to fear,—
Ev'ry woman's eloquent pleading eye,
And firm rich tones art here!

They come by thousands from their haunts
Of cheerless toil and gloom;—
And Allegheny's cotton Lords,
And Pittsburgh's know their doom.

They come not with the clashing steel
Not tremble for the fact,
They bring hearts, minds and souls to feel
And principle to act.—

And manly forms are bending near
To strengthen and defend:
And generous hearts and sinewy arms
Their utmost aid extend.

Aye a prouder, higher, nobler strain,
I wait to each listening ear;
Then in old times, from Concord's plain,
Or Bunker's heights rang clear.

Then was a roused, indignant land,
The nation's honor contending;—
Now 'tis a calm high-hearted band,
Humanity's rights defending.

With the broad green earth beneath their feet,
God's glorious heavens o'er them!
Justice and Truth, their watchword is,
Freedom the goal before them.

And onward, onward is their course,
While countless ages roll;—
The eternal fiat hath gone forth,
Beyond thy vain control.

Ay, thou may'st check old tempest's foam,
Or bind the roaring sea;
But never shall thou fetter down,
Their souls to slavery.

AMELIA.

Miscellaneous.

THE LOCKSMITH of PHILADELPHIA.

In the sober looking city of Philadelphia, there dwelt, some years ago, an ingenious and clever mechanic, named Amos Sparks, by trade a locksmith. Nature had blessed him with a peculiar turn for the branch of business to which he had been bred. Not only was he skilled in the manufacture and repair of the various articles that in America are usually regarded as "in the locksmith line," but, prompted by a desire to master the more abstruse intricacies of the business, he had studied it so attentively and with such distinguished success, that his proficiency was the theme of admiration, not only with his customers and the neighborhood, but all who took an interest in mechanical contrivance in the adjoining towns. His counter was generally strewed with various kinds of fastenings for doors, trunks and desks, which nobody but himself could open, and no lock was ever presented to Amos, that he could not pick in a very short time. Like many men of talent in other departments, Amos Sparks was poor. Though a very industrious and prudent man, with a small and frugal family, he merely eked out a comfortable existence, but never seemed to accumulate property. Whether it was that he was not of the race of money grubs, whose instinctive desire of accumulation forces them to earn and hoard without a thought beyond the mere means of acquisition, or whether the time occupied by the prosecution of new inquiries into still undiscovered regions of his favorite pursuit, and in conversation with those who came to inspect and admire the fruits of his ingenuity, were the cause of his poverty, we cannot undertake to determine; but, perhaps, various causes, combined to keep his finances low, and it was quite as notorious in the city that Amos Sparks was a poor man, as that he was an ingenious and decent mechanic. But his business was sufficient for the supply of his wants, and those of his family, so he studied and worked on, and was content.

It happened that in the autumn of 18—, a merchant in the city, whose business was rather extensive, and who had been bustling about the Quay, and on board his vessels all the morning, returned to his counting house to lodge several thousand dollars in the Philadelphia bank, to retrieve some paper falling due that day, when, to his surprise, he found that he had either lost or mislaid the key of his iron chest. After diligent search, with no success, he was led to conclude that in drawing out his handkerchief, he had dropped the key in the street, or perhaps into the dock.—What was to be done?—it was one o'clock—the bank closed at three, and there was no time to advertise the key, or to muster so large a sum as that required. In his perplexity the merchant thought of the poor locksmith; he had often heard of Amos Sparks, the case seemed one peculiarly adapted to a trial of his powers, and being a desperate one, if he could not furnish a remedy, where else was there reasonable expectation of succor? A clerk was hurried off for Amos, and having explained the difficulty, speedily re-appeared, followed by the locksmith, with his implements in his hand. A few minutes sufficed to open the chest, and the astonished merchant glanced from the rolls of bank notes and piles of coin strewed along the bottom, to the clock in the corner of the office, which told him that he had still three quarters of an hour, with a feeling of delight and exultation, like one who had escaped from an unexpected dilemma by a lucky thought, and who felt that his credit was secure even from a momentary breath of suspicion. He fancied he felt generous as well as glad, and determined that it should be a cash transaction.

"How much is to pay, Amos?" said he, thrusting his hand into his pocket.

"Five dollars, sir," said Sparks.

"Five dollars! why, you are mad; you have not been five minutes doing the job.—Come, (the genuine spirit of traffic overcoming the better feelings which had momentary possession of his bosom,) I'll give you five shillings."

"It is true," replied the locksmith, "that much time has not been employed; but remember how many long years I have been learning to do such a job in five minutes, or even to do it at all. A doctor's visit may last but one minute,—the service he renders may be but doubtful when done,—and yet his fee would be as great if not greater than mine.—You should be willing to purchase my skill, humble as it may be, as you would purchase any other commodity in the market, by what it is worth to you."

"Worth to me," said the merchant with a sneer, "well, I think it was worth five shillings; I could have got a new key made for that, or perhaps, I might have found the old one."

"But could you have got the one made, or found the other, in time to retrieve your notes at the bank? Had I been disposed to wrong you, taking advantage of your haste and perplexity, I might have bargained for a much larger sum, and as there is not another man in the city who could have opened the chest, you would gladly have given me double the amount I now claim?"

"Double the amount! Why the man's a fool! Here are the five shillings," said the merchant, holding them in his hand, with the air of a rich man taking advantage of a poor one who could not help himself; "and if you do not choose to take them you may sue as soon as you please, for my time is too precious just now to spend in a matter so trifling."

"I never sued a man in my life," said the locksmith, "and I have lost much by my forbearance. But," added he, the trodden worm of a meek spirit beginning to recoil, "you are rich—we are poor; you can pay; and although I will not sue you, pay you shall."

The words were scarcely spoken, when he dashed down the lid of the chest, and in a moment the strong staples were firmly clasped by the bolts below, and the gold and bank notes were hidden as effectually as though they had vanished like the ill-gotten hoards in the fairy tale.

The merchant stood aghast. He looked at Amos and then darted a glance at the clock, the hand was within twenty minutes of three, and seemed posting over the figures with the speed of light. What was to be done? At first he tried to bully, but it would not do.—Amos told him if he had sustained any injury, "he might sue as soon as he pleased, for that his time was too precious just now to be wasted in trifling affairs," and with a face of unruffled composure, he turned on his heel and was leaving the office.

The merchant called him back; he had no alternative,—his credit was at stake,—half the city would say that he had lost the key to gain time, and because there was no money in the chest; he was humbled by the necessity of the case, and handing forth the five dollars, "There, Sparks," said he, "take your money, and let us have no more words."

"I must have ten dallars now," replied the locksmith; "you would have taken advantage of a poor man; and, besides opening your strong box there, I have a lesson to give you which is well worth a trifling sum. You would not only have deprived me of what had been fairly earned, but have tempted me into a lawsuit which would have ruined my family. You will never in future presume upon your wealth in your dealings with the poor, without thinking of the locksmith, and these five dollars may save you much sin, and much repentance."

This homily, besides being preached in a tone of calm deliberation, which left no room to hope for any abatement, had exhausted another minute or two of the time already so precious; for the minutes, like the sibyl's books, increased in value as they diminished in number. The merchant hurriedly counted out ten dollars, which Amos deliberately inspected, to see that they belonged to no broken bank, and then deposited it in his breeches pocket.

"For heaven's sake be quick, man, I would not have the bank close before this money is paid, for fifty dollars!" exclaimed the merchant.

"I thought so," was the locksmith's grave reply; but not being a malicious or vindictive man, and satisfied with the punishment already inflicted, he delayed no longer, but opened the chest, giving its owner time to seize the cash and reach the bank, after a rapid flight, a few minutes before it closed.

About a month after this affair, the Philadelphia bank was robbed of coin and notes to the amount of fifty thousand dollars. The bars of a window had been cut, and the vault entered so ingeniously that it was evident that the burglar had possessed, besides daring courage, a good deal of mechanical skill.—The police scoured the city and country round about, but no clue to the discovery of the robbery could be traced. Every body who had any thing to lose, felt that daring and ingenious felons were abroad, who might probably pay them a visit; all were therefore interested in their discovery and conviction. Suspicion at length began to settle upon Sparks. But yet his poverty and known integrity seemed to give them the lie. The story of the iron chest which the merchant had hitherto been ashamed, and Amos too forgiving to tell, for the latter did not care to set the town laughing even at the man who had wronged him, now began to be noised abroad. The merchant, influenced by a vindictive spirit, had whispered it to the directors of the bank, with sundry shrugs and inuendoes, and of course it soon spread far and wide, with all sorts of exaggarated variations and additions. Amos thought for several days that some of his neighbors looked and acted rather oddly, and he missed one or two who used to drop in and chat almost every afternoon; but, not suspecting for a moment that there was any cause for altered behaviour, these matters made but a slight impression on his mind. In all such cases the person most interested is the last to hear disagreeable news; and the first hint that the locksmith got of the universal suspicion, was from the officer of the police, who came with a party of constables to search his premises. Astonishment and grief were, of course, the portion of Amos and his family for that day. The first shock to a household who had derived, even amidst their humble poverty, much satisfaction from the possession of a good name—a property they had been taught to value above all earthly treasures—may be easily conceived. To have defrauded a neighbor of even a sixpence would have been a meanness no one of them would have been guilty of,—but fifty thousand dollars; the immensity of the sum seemed to clothe the suspicion with a weight of terror that nearly pressed them to the earth. They clung to each other with bruised and fluttered spirits while the search was proceeding, and it was not until it was completed, and the officer declared himself satisfied that there was none of the missing property on the premises, that they began to rally and look calmly at the circumstances which seemed, for the moment, to menace the peace and security they had hitherto enjoyed.

"Cheer up, my darlings!" said Amos, who was the first to recover the sobriety of thought that usually characterized him,—"cheer up all will yet be well; it is impossible that this unjust suspicion can long hover about us. A life of honesty and fair dealing will not be without its rewards; there was perhaps something in my trade, and the skill which long practice had given me in it, that naturally enough led the credulous, the thoughtless, and perhaps the mischievous, if any such there be connected with this inquiry, to look towards us. But the real authors of this outrage will probably be discovered soon; for a fraud so extensive will make all parties vigilant, and if not, why then, when our neighbors see us toiling at our usual occupations, with no evidence of increased wealth or lavish expenditure on our persons or at our board, and remember how many years we were so occupied, and so attired, without a suspicion of wrong doing, even in small matters, attaching to us, there will be good sense and good feeling enough in the city to do us justice."

There were sound sense and much consolation in this reasoning; The obvious probabilities of the case were in favor of the fulfilment of the locksmith's expectations. But a scene of trial and excitement, of prolonged agony and hope deferred, lay before him, the extent of which it would have been difficult if not impossible, for him then to have foreseen:—foiled in the search, the directors of the bank sent one of their body to negotiate with Amos; to offer him a large sum of money, and a guarantee from further molestation, if he would confess, restore the property, and give up his accomplices, if any there were. It was in vain that he protested his innocence, and avowed his abhorrence of the crime; the banker railed him on his assumed composure, and threatened him with consequences, until the locksmith, who had been accustomed to dialogues founded on the presumption that he was a villain, ordered his tormentor out of his shop with the spirit of a man, who, though poor, was resolved to preserve his self-respect; and protect the sanctity of his dwelling from impertinent and insulting intrusion.

The banker retired, baffled, and threatening vengeance. A consultation was held, and it was finally determined to arrest Sparks and commit him to prison, in the hope that by shutting him up, and separating him from his family and accomplices, he would be less upon his guard against the collection of evidence necessary to a conviction, and perhaps be frightened into terms, or induced to make a full confession. This was a severe blow to the family. They could have borne much together; for mutual counsel and sympathy can soothe many of the ills of life; but to be divided—to have the strongest mind, around which the feebler ones had been accustomed to cling, carried away captive to brood in solitary confinement on an unjust accusation, was almost too much when coupled with the cloud of suspicion that seemed to gather around their home, and infect the very air they breathed. The privations forced upon them by the want of the locksmith's earnings, were borne without a murmur; and out of the little that could be mustered, a portion was always reserved to buy some trifling but unexpected comfort or luxury to carry to the prison.

Some months having passed without Sparks having made any confession, or the discovery of any new fact whereby his guilt might be established, his persecutors found themselves reluctantly compelled to bring him to trial.—They had not a title of evidence, except some strange locks and implements found in the shop, and which proved the talent, but not the guilt of the mechanic. Yet these were so various, and executed with such elaborate art, and such an evident expenditure of labor, that but few, either of the judges, or jury, or spectators, could be persuaded that a man so poor, would have devoted himself so sedulously to such an employment unless he had some other object in view than mere instruction or amusement. His friends and neighbors gave him an excellent character; but, on the cross-examination, all admitted his entire devotion to his favorite pursuit. The counsel for the bank exerted himself with consummate ability; calculating in some deree on the state of the public mind, and the influence which vague rumors, coupled with the evidence of the mechanic's handicraft exhibited in court, might have on the mind of the jury, he dwelt on every word, and winding on the story of the iron chest, on the evident poverty of the locksmith, and yet his apparent waste of time, if all this work was not intended to insure success in some vast design. He believed that verdict would be immediately followed by a confession, for he thought Amos guilty; and he succeeded in making the belief pretty general among his audience. Some of the jury were half inclined to speculate on the probabilities of a confession, and swept away by the current of suspicion, were not indisposed to convict without evidence, in order that the result might do credit to their penetration.—But this was impossible, even in an American court of justice in the good old times of which we write. Hanging persons on suspicion, and acquitting felons because the mob thinks murder no crime, are modern inventions.—The charge of the judge was clear and decisive; he admitted that there were grounds of suspicion—that there were circumstances connected with the prisoner's peculiar mode of life that were not reconcilable to the lowness of his finances; but yet of direct testimony there was not a vestige, and of circumstantial evidence there was not only links wanting in the chain, but in fact there was not a link extending beyond the locksmiths dwelling.—Sparks was accordingly acquitted; but as no other clue was found to direct suspicion, it still lay upon him like a cloud. The vindictive merchant and dissatisfied bankers did not hesitate to declare that, although the charge could not be legally brought home, they had no doubt whatever of his guilt. This opinion was taken up and reiterated, until thousands, who were too careless to investigate the story, were satisfied that Amos was a rogue. How should the character of a poor man hold out against the deliberate slanders of so many rich ones?

Amos rejoiced in his acquittal as one who felt that the jury had performed a solemn duty faithfully, and who was glad to find that his personal experience had strengthened, rather than impaired, his reliance on the tribunals of his country. He embraced his family as one snatched from great responsibility and peril, and his heart overflowing with thankfulness when at night they were all once more assembled round the fire-side, the scene of so much happiness and unity in other days. But yet Amos felt that, though acquitted by the jury, he was not by the town. He saw that, in the faces of some of the jury, and most of the audience, which he was too shrewd an observer to misunderstand. He wished it were otherwise, but he was contented to take his chance of some subsequent revelation, and if it came not, of living down the foul suspicion which Providence had permitted, for some wise purpose, to hover for a time around his name.

But Amos had never thought of how he was to live. The cold looks, averted faces, and rude scandal of the neighborhood, could be borne, because really there was some excuse to be found in the circumstances, and because he hoped that there would be a joyful ending of it all at some future day. But the loss of custom first opened his eyes to his real situation. No work came to his shop; he made articles but could not sell them; and as the little money he had saved was necessarily exhausted in the unavoidable expenses of the trial, the family found it impossible, with the utmost exertion and economy, to meet their current outlay; one article of furniture after another was reluctantly sacrificed, or some little comfort abridged, until, at the end of months of degradation and absolute distress, their bare board was spread within bare walls and it became necessary to beg, to starve, or to remove. The latter expedient had often been suggested in family consultations, and it is one that in America is the common remedy for all great calamities. The Sparks would have removed, but they still clung to the hope that the real perpetrator would be discovered and the mystery cleared up; and, besides, they thought it would be an acknowledgment of the justice of the general suspicion, if they turned their backs and fled. They lived upon the expectation of the renewed confidence and companionship of old friends and neighbors, when Providence should deem it right to draw the veil aside. But to live longer in Philadelphia was impossible, and the whole family prepared to depart; their effects were easily transported, and, as they had no credit since the arrest, there was nobody to prevent them from seeking a livelihood elsewhere.

Embarking in one of the river boats, they passed up the Schuylkill, and settled at Norristown. The whole family being industrious and obliging, they soon began to gather comforts around them; and as those were not imbittered by the cold looks and insulting sneers of the vicinage, they were comparatively happy for a time. But even here there was for them no permanent place of rest. A merchant passing through Norristown, on his way from the capital to the Blue Mountains, recognised Sparks, and told somebody he knew, that he wished the community joy of having added to the number of its inhabitants the notorious locksmith of Philadelphia. The news soon spread; the family found that they were shunned as they had formerly been by those who had known them longer than the good people of Norristown, and had a fair prospect of starvation opening before them. They removed again. This time there were no inducements to linger, for they had no local attachments to detain them. They crossed the mountains, and descending into the vale of the Susquehanna, pitched their tents at Sunbury. Here the same temporary success excited the same hopes, only to be blighted in the bud by the breath of slander, which seemed so widely circulated as to leave them hardly any asylum within the limits of the State. We need not enumerate the different towns and villages in which they essayed to gain a livelihood, were suspected, shunned, and fled. They had nearly crossed the State—its whole length, been driven from Pittsburg—and were slowly wending their way further west, and were standing on the high ground overlooking Middleton, as though doubtful if there was to be rest for the soles of tired feet even there; they hesitated to try a new experiment, Sparks seated himself on a stone beneath a spreading sycamore—his family

clustered around him on the grass—they had travelled far, and were weary; and without speaking a word, as their eyes met; and as they thought of their prolonged sufferings and slender hopes, they burst into a flood of tears, in which Sparks, burying his face in the golden locks of the sweet girl who bowed her head upon his knee, joined audibly.

At length wiping away his tears, and checking the rising sobs that shook his manly bosom, "God's will be done, my children," said the locksmith, "we cannot help weeping, but let us not murmur. Our heavenly Father has tried and is trying us, doubtless, for some wise purpose, and if we are still to be wanderers and outcasts on the earth, let us never lose sight of his promise, which assures us of an eternal refuge in a place 'where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest.' I was perhaps too proud of that skill of mine; too apt to plume myself upon it above others whose gifts had been less abundant, to take all the credit and give none to Him by whom the human brain is wrought into mysterious adaption to particular sciences and pursuits. My error has been that of wiser and greater men, who have been made to feel that what we cherish as the richest as earthly blessings sometimes turns out a curse."

To dissipate the gloom, which hung over the whole party, and beguile the half hour that they intended to rest in that sweet spot, Mrs. Sparks drew out a Philadelphia newspaper, which somebody had given her upon the road, and called their attention to the deaths and marriages, that they might see what changes were taking place in a city that still interested them, though they were banished forever from its borders. She had hardly opened the paper when her eye glanced at an article which she was too much excited to read. Amos wondering at the emotion displayed, gently disengaged the paper, and read, "BANK ROBBER—SPARKS NOT THE MAN."—His own feelings were as powerfully affected as his wife's, but his nerves were stronger, and he read out to an audience, whose ears devoured every sylable of the glad tidings, an account of the conviction and execution of a wretch in Albany, and who had confessed, among other daring and heinous crimes, the robbery of the Philadelphia bank; accounting for the dissipation of the property, and entirely exonerating Sparks, whose face he had never seen. Those were "glad tidings of great joy" to the weary wayfarers beneath the sycamore, whose hearts overflowed with thankfulness to the Father of Mercies, who had given them strength to bear the burden of affliction, and had lifted it from their spirits ere they had been crushed beneath the weight. Their resolution to return to their native city was formed at once; and before a week had passed, they were slowly journeying towards the capital of the state.

Meanwhile, an extraordinary revolution of feeling had taken place at Philadelphia.—Newspapers and other periodicals, which had formerly been loud in condemnation of the locksmith, now blazoned abroad the robber's confession, wondered how any man could have been for a moment suspected upon such evidence as was adduced upon the trial; drew pictures of the domestic felicity once enjoyed by the Sparks, and then painted—partly from what was known of the reality, and partly from imagination—their sufferings, privations, and wrongs, in the pilgrimage they had performed in fleeing from an unjust, but damnatory accusation. The whole city rang with the story; old friends and neighbors, who had been the first to cut them, now became the loud and vehement partisans of the family. Every body was anxious to know where they were. Some reported that they had perished in the woods, others that they had been burnt in a prairie; while not a few believed that the locksmith, driven to desperation, had first destroyed his family, and then himself. All these stories of course created as much excitement as the robbery of the bank had done before, only that this time the tide set the other way; and, by the time the poor locksmith and his family, who had been driven like vagabonds from the city, approached its suburbs, they were met, congratulated, and followed by thousands, to whom, from the strange vicissitudes of their lot, they had become objects of interest. In fact, theirs was almost a triumphal entry; and, as the public always like to have a victim, they were advised on all hands to bring an action against the directors of the bank; large damages would, it was affirmed, be given, and the bank deserved to suffer for the causeless ruin brought on a poor but industrious family.

Sparks was reluctant to engage in any such proceedings; his character was vindicated, his business restored, he occupied his own shop, and his family were comfortable and content. But the current of public opinion was too strong for him. All Philadelphia had determined that the bankers should pay. An eminent lawyer volunteered to conduct his suit, and make no charge, if a liberal verdict were not obtained. The locksmith pondered the matter well; his own wrongs he freely forgave; but he thought that there had been a readiness to secure the interests of a wealthy corporation, by blasting the prospects of a humble mechanic, which, for the good of society, ought not to pass unrebuked; he felt that the moral effect of a prosecution would be salutary, teaching the rich not to presume too far upon their affluance, and cheering to the hearts of the poor while suffering unmerited persecution.

The suit was commenced, and urged to trial, notwithstanding several attempts at compromise on the part of the bank. The pleadings on both sides were able and ingenious, but the counsel for the defendant had a theme worthy of the fine powers he possessed; and, at the close of a pathetic and eloquent declamation, the audience which had formerly condemned Amos in their hearts without evidence, were melted to tears by the recital of his sufferings; and, when the jury returned with a verdict of ten thousand dollars damages against the bank, the locksmith was honored by a ride home on their shoulders, amidst a hurricane of cheers.

Labor in New-York.

ITS CIRCUMSTANCES, CONDITIONS AND REWARDS.

NO. X.—BOOT AND SHOE-MAKERS.

Although there are no establishments in our City manufacturing boots and shoes on so grand scale as is carried on in some of the cities and towns in the Eastern States; yet, as a large number of the five or six hundred thousand souls of this great emporium are employed in the various branches of the Boot and Shoe making business, its importance should claim our attention. Owing to the grand influx of foreign population within a few years past, the competition in this branch of industry, has been carried to such a degree as almost to drive the American mechanic from his work-bench, and make him exclaim with the Moor—"Othello's occupation's gone!" *

It is estimated that there are about Two Thousand Journeymen Shoe-Makers in this City, and of this number by far the greater part are Germans, Irish and French. The English and Americans engaged in the trade are comparatively very few, and these are chiefly employed on the Ladies' branch.

There is not perhaps a more industrious working class in our city than the Germans. They rise early and retire late, and though when arriving on our shores they do not *drive business*, as is a distinguishing characteristic of our native mechanics; yet after they have been some time among us a decided improvement in this respect can be plainly observed.

The Germans are generally found occupying basements and cellars, and pretty much all the capital one requires to start business, is a bench and tools, a side of leather, a ball of thread, a little wax, and a glass show-case stuck out by the door, containing a specimen of work. With these, aided by an untiring industry, economical habits and plenty of elbow room, he manages to push along through the world.

The manner in which the different classes of the Shoe-Makers live varies according to the nation. The Germans and the Irish live more together and in smaller apartments than the French, English and Americans, who live up nearer the maxim 'Live and let live' than their foreign brethren of the craft.

There is a society of Journeymen Shoe-Makers called "The United Benefit Society of Cordwainers on the Men's Branch of the City of New-York." This Association has been in existence since the close of the Revolutionary War, and has always been in a flourishing condition. The number of its members varies at different times. There are now about three hundred, a majority of whom are Irishmen. Its meetings are held on the third Monday of every month. The object of this Association is for regulating working hours and the prices of the different works. In case of sickness its members are allowed a certain sum weekly from the general fund, and on the death of a member his funeral expenses are defrayed by the Association.

A Ladies' branch of this Society was started a good many years since; but is not very active except on momentous occasions affecting the interests of this class, when it shines out for a while, then flickers and remains inert until some other occasion may demand its action. At the present time it may be said to be in *statu quo*.

The system of apprenticing to the Shoe-making trade is now pretty much done away with in the city. The great number of foreigners who arrive here are ready workman who have completed their apprenticeship in the father-land, and can be employed for small wages.

Boot-making is divided into different branches, the technical names of which are Crimping Fitting and Bottoming.

Crimping is generally done by those who attend exclusively to this department—although there are some establishments where they do their own crimping. The process of Crimping is for giving the boot-legs shape, and it may thus be described. The leather, (cut into the required shape for the boot,) is soaked in water for about one hour, then stretched over what is called a tree, (which is a flat piece of wood cut somewhat in the shape of a human leg and foot.) The leather is then greased, which is well rubbed in with a hard stick. It is allowed to remain on the tree for about a day, and it is then ready for fitting. The price for crimping is from seventy-five cents to a dollar for a dozen boot-legs. A crimper can make, working ten hours a day, from seventy-five cents to two dollars a day—a good deal depending upon the expertness of the crimper and the quality of the leather, some leather crimping easily, while on the other hand, some being very difficult to work.

Fitting is sewing the boot-legs together—putting in the lining, straps, &c. making them ready for bottoming. Fitting is generally done by females, and is so simple a process that children can help work on it. There is a good deal of this work done among families; yet there are establishments where this is exclusively attended to by males.

The price for fitting a pair of legs is from two and six pence to seven and six pence—depending upon the quality of the work required. Some legs have a good deal of colored leather and fancy stitch-work about them; these embellishments take time to make them, and, of course, as time is money, all this must be paid for.

After the legs are fitted they are then ready for the hands of the journeyman, whose labor is called working on bottoms or bottoming boots.

A journeyman can make from three to six pairs of bottoms a week, working about ten hours a day. The prices paid are from one dollar and seventy-five cents to two dollars and twenty-five cents a pair—depending upon the work required. What are called extras, are such as cork soles, patent spur sockets, double vamps, channel shanks, welted half-soles, counters over the seams, with a row of stabbing on the vamps, &c. &c. for all these the journeyman gets more pay. The wages usually earned by a journeyman are from four to six dollars a week; but there are many who earn seven, eight and nine dollars a week. There are more who make six dollars than there are who make four or seven dollars a week; and to make eight and nine dollars the journeyman must locomotive it early and late.

There are many journeyman in the City who are employed by the month, and whose wages are from four to twelve dollars. They get their board, lodging and washing. The work done by this class is generally on the coarser boots and shoes. A good journeyman seldom works but by the piece.

(*Continued next week.*)

VOICE OF INDUSTRY.

What We Labor for.—The abolition of idleness want and oppression; the prevalence of industry, virtue and intelligence.

LOWELL, NOVEMBER 21, 1845.

POLITICAL ACTION AND THE N. YORK NATIONAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.—By reference to the proceedings of the National Reform Association, in another column it will be seen that some dissatisfaction is manifested relative to the course pursued by the N. England Workingmen's Association, at their last meeting in this city, upon the subject of political action. We feel that the convention acted the part of wisdom in their decision upon this question—that political supremacy is not the *primary* object of the workingmen's Reform. We hope our brethren at N. York, will not allow their zeal for the hasty consumation of the great object which they have in view, and for which they are nobly striving; viz: "The freedom of the Public Lands," to look upon all efforts in behalf of the working classes, which do not tend *directly* to that object, as *inferior* and unavailing; The Workingmen of New England are doing a mighty work; they are accomplishing a lasting work for themselves and posterity, and one for which future generations will bless their memories. It is no fitful ablution of passion, which has stirred up this industrial revolution among the toiling sons and daughters of N. England, but a deep regard for the *divine rights* of man; which this age has developed, and which every movement of the day, continues to reveal. There is a moral power in the workingmen's Reform of N. England, that looks beyond a mere political triumph where *might* rules; neglecting the *rights of all*. Often has the world been convulsed with political revolutions, inspired by objects as laudable and holy as any now before the American workingmen, viz: the social, political and religious freedom of the people; but these revolutions have failed in making *practical* the great principles of political and religious freedom and equal rights, because the people did not sufficiently understand them—they lacked for *knowledge, charity and intelligence*; consequently they become an easy prey to demagogueism and seductive ambition; and thus all professed democracy and republicanism has *practically* resulted in arristocracies, oligarchies, or monopolies. Now to prevent such disastrous consequences, all Reforms must be based upon *fixed* and *settled principles*, accompanied by virtue and intelligence; otherwise, no matter how good and righteous the reform may be, a reaction will ensue—the people will be deluded away by factional leaders, or sink into apathy and neglect.

We assure our friends of N. York, that the members of N. England Workingmen's Association are not unmindful of their political rights, and in all rational ways will they defend them; but they do not wish to barter them away to one class of demagogues or "Hunkers," because they promise to grant certain rights, which others have refused them.—With the National Reform movement, the N. England Association are in full fellowship, and they will not hesitate to use political means towards accomplishing this object, whenever any well matured plan of organization, shall be presented. The abridgment of the hours of labor, in our manufactories—the "Lien Law", "retrenchments in the general and State expenditures;" and all other measures, founded upon justice and the inherent rights of man, will be urged upon our political bodies, by memorials, petitions and the Press.—and then if our claims are not regarded, we shall take other measures to effect the object we have in view.

Our brethren at N. York, must recollect that no great and permanent good can be accomplished by wild and momentary enthusiasm, which, like the swelling flood will soon subside and leave their little bark of Reform upon the rocks and sands; but calm deliberation, and the sound yet simple philosophy of human rights, when spread abroad by the light of truth, will establish a *reform* which never can be overthrown by political commotions, or sectarian whirlwinds—even a *free soil*, with a *free and virtuous people*.

We acknowledge the reception of that "Ticket" from Lynn, but with due regard for our friends' good intentions, we regret that they should have fallen in the common political error, of selecting *Lieut. Governors*, who have not learned to govern themselves.

We cannot too highly commend to our readers, the following extract, from a work by the Rev. Henry Colman upon "European Agriculture and Rural Economy, from personal observation."

It has seldom been our privilege to peruse an article so replete with christian philosophy, true humanity and benevolence, and we especially recommend it to the attention of those who occupy the same responsible station in society. One particularly in this City, author of "Lowell as it was and as it is," should compare these noble, generous and humane sentiments, with the narrow, selfish and policy disposition which characterizes that entire work, that he may see how infinitely *unbecoming* professed christianity looks apologizing for the works of oppression, when reflected in the mirror of christian justice.

"CLAIMS OF LABOR, AND DUTIES OF WEALTH.—This has always impressed my mind as only an equitable adjustment, and must be equally as soothing to a good man's conscience as to a poor man's stomach. Contradicted, as I have often, and severely reproached, as I have sometimes been, for the assertion, I nevertheless maintain as my sober conviction, that in all business where success depends on labor,—whether it be in the case o. manufacturing industry, in agricultural labor, or in the toils and hardships of a seafaring life,—the person who does the work, who endures the hardships, who encounters the exposures, has the first claim upon the the proceeds, and should come in for an equitable share of the profits. I admit that there is much labor and anxiety in mental application and in the active enterprise and care on the part of the manager of such concerns, which are often as severe as any bodily toil, and which deserve to be fully compensated. In general, this enterprise is perfectly competent however, to take care of its own interests, and seldom fails to provide for itself. But it is said, these people take no risks; they are sure in event, of their stipulated wages; they have no right to any more. I know they have no legal right. But I do not understand that they take no risk. There is always a risk of losing their wages, which is something; but in all employments there is a risk of health, and in many a constant exposure to disease, to accidents of various kinds, to loss of sight, or loss of limbs, or loss of life. There are many trades and professions where health is almost certain to be impaired, and life to be prematurely cut off. There are peculiar dangers in mines, among complicated machinery, in unhealthy climates, on the open seas, and on the ice-bound and rock-bound shores, bristled with pointed cliffs and ruffled with foaming waves.

I know very well the great rules of trade, as they are called—"Buy as cheaply as you can; sell as dearly as you can; get your labor performed for the least possible wages; and accumulate, accumulate, accumulate, as your great end and aim." This, men call Christianity; I think, to give it such a name is a libel upon a religion which teaches us to do justly and to love mercy, and which enjoins it upon us, as the highest law of social duty, to do to others as we would that others should do to us. I admit that, if men could enter into a perfectly free and equal competition, unmixed self-interest, though an inferior, might yet not be so objectionable a rule as in other circumstances; but how seldom is the competition equal between capital and labor, wealth and poverty, skill and ignorance; and especially in a country like England, where wealth is enormous; labor superabundant; the professions, and trades, and occupations crowded to repletion; the lower classes extremely ignorant and dependent; and the population increasing with a rapidity perfectly astounding. I complain of no man's wealth, if that wealth be the fruit of honest industry and enterprise. I envy no man's power, if that power be justly acquired. But I do envy—with no desire, however, to pluck a single jewel from his crown—that man's honor and felicity, and equally his wisdom and goodness, who, in the possession of ample power, whether of wealth or learning, or talents, finds his highest honor in being just, and his purest happiness in using his power in doing good; in succoring those who need succor; in helping those who are trying to help themselves; in encouraging and stimulating self-respect, and a virtuous ambition to make their condition better, even in the most humble; in proving himself the friend of the friendless; in protecting and rewarding industry, sobriety, and frugality, not in a nigardly, but a generous manner; in sharing some liberal measure of his abundance with those by whose labor, under the blessing of Heaven, this abundance has been created; and in sending light, and comfort, and plenty, into the cottages and hearts of those who have sowed his fields, and brought on their toil-worn shoulders the fruits of their cultivation to his stores. The golden harvests of such a man in every wave reflect Heaven's purest sunshine; his dew-bespangled fields glitter with a radience brighter than ever shone in a regal diadem; and the happiness and joy, which he sends into the homes and hearts of others, return in gushing streams to flood his own home and his own heart.

I know my poor words will find a warm response in many a kind bosom, and, by Heaven's blessing, may throw a spark into that smoking flax, which too much of what is called prosperity may not yet have quenched.—There are many such hearts; but in general we see "who gets the lion's share." To reason with avarice, is well nigh desperate. If it were an iceburg, we might hope that, under the rays of a clear sun, it might be made tractable; but it is a mass of granite, which, like the monumental column in Trafalgar Square, stands wholly unmoved by the forlorn and pitiable objects of destitution and wretchedness, whom I have often seen, in a Winter's day sunning themselves at its base; and remains alike impervious to heat or cold, to calm or storm, to summer's fires or winter's frosts.

A rumor is afloat, that the Pittsburg manufacturers are holding a correspondence with those of the East, for the purpose of establishing "the ten hour system" throughout the American manufactories, or at least, to see if a reduction in the present number of hours cannot be brought about.

We hope the American manufacturers will be governed by some little regard for the welfare of their country, and its rapidly increasing population, and not let the inordinate thirst for wealth and vicious luxury which characterizes the age, speedily introduce the miseries of Europe's toil worn and degraded sons and daughters among our factory population. Although the condition of the operatives of this country is, at present far superior to the half-starved drudges of the Old World; yet to the refletcing, investigating mind, the same fearful causes are rapidly at work, in our so called "land of liberty," and just as sure as the sun rises in the East and sets in the West, our country will be visited by like results, should the present system be suffered to continue. The Serfs of Russia, and the poverty stricken victims of England's accursed avarice and feudal greatness, have often heard their ancestors tell of brighter, better days, when plenty and happiness dwelt on Albion shores, and the most humble peasant felt a pleasing consciousness of his own existence and of those around him. But the *monster* crept on—the *soil* which God gave as an inviolate heritage to *all* was robbed from his children and they gradually driven from their quiet homes; wanderers in the land to fill England's manufacturing prison-houses with an overflowing populace, dependant upon heartless avarice and unfeeling *capital* for a few crumbs to satisfy their crying hunger. History, tells us, that these fatal evils have not been momentary in their operations, but have grown and strengthened by crafty degrees—one after another of the sacred rights of humanity, have been wrested from the people of England by her Heaven cursed aristocracy and monopolizing freebooters, until nought but a shadow of "God's image"—*free, virtuous and intelligent man*, fills that boasting kingdom, and her millions are famishing in want and degradation.

Americans! shall a like fate ever befall our highly revered country? Shall all our boasted "privileges" and "sacred rights" be sacrificed upon the the unhallowed altar of national vanity and aspirancy, which suffers a system of manufacturing monopoly to grow up and feed upon the health, happiness and natural rights of our people? Who that has carefully watched the past progress of this manufacturing enterprise in our country; observing its various stages of action and thirst for power, but must admit, if he utters his honest convictions, that it is the same *monster* in all its hideous realities, that has reduced the toiling masses of Europe to deplorable bondage and wretchedness?

It now remains to be seen, whether the manufacturers of this country, in view of these things, will be induced to retard this destroying evil, by so abridging the hours of labor, that our factories shall not prove a virtual death-bed to so many operatives, who from necessity, or a wish to "better their condition," are yearly flocking to them for employment. We do not expect this measure to entirely *eradicate* the evils of factory labor; nothing short of an entire new system, founded upon principles of democratic equality and justice, instead of *English policy* and precedent—a system which will insure to the laborer, the free and rational enjoyment of the products of his physical and mental energy, and spread the blessings of *Industry* universally throughout the land, instead of filling the treasury of the few fortunate capitalists and speculators, while *the people* live by mere *sufferance*, will do such a work. But a reduction of the hours of labor, will greatly ameliorate the present condition of the factory operatives, by giving more time to improve their physical and mental endowments, thereby saving many from ignorance, disease and premature death; and unless this measure is speedily brought about by the manufacturers themselves, we shall urge upon the operatives and all interested in their behalf and the general good of the working classes, the necessity of some *radical* movement to accomplish so desirable and important an object, recollecting that,

"Ill fares that land, to hastening ill a prey
Where wealth increases and men decay."

To our friends who have not subscribed for the Voice, we would say, that we have a few more left of the same sort—Price only *four quarters of a dollar*.

We learn from a Manchester paper, that a boy named Southard in attempting to jump on a car, and missing his hold had his leg so shockingly mangled, that he was obliged to have it amputated.

The following letter, from the Secretary of the National Industrial Convention, recently held in N. York City, is in answer to the remarks of the delegate from the Female Labor Reform Association of Lowell. We fully concur with the sentiments therein expressed, and cheerfully give it a place in our columns.

Monopoly of the Soil by Governments, States or individuals, is, and ever has been, one of the greatest sources, of the many evils which afflict the laboring classes; and if Governments or individuals can with justice monopolize the *essentials* of Human Life, there certainly is an apology for the nefarious system of trafficking in life itself.

New-York, 29th of 10th month.

To the Delegate of the Lowell Female L. R. Association, Madam:—In pursuance of a vote of the late Industrial Convention, I avail myself of the opportunity to reply briefly to your very acceptable communication to that body. It was highly gratifying to the Convention to learn that their brethren and sisters of Lowell are striving to better the unfortunate condition of things in which they are placed. It is one great point gained, when the useful classes can be aroused from the apathy which repeated failures of attempts to better their conditions, have induced. But it is highly important that those who have influence to guide their counsels, should weigh well the results of past efforts; because it must necessarily happen that among any body of working men or women, there must always be a large majority of those who, from their youth have very little experience, and who, consequently, have not a full appreciation of the constant and rapid downward tendency of Labor under present arrangements, and, who, therefore, are apt, when they first discover this unnatural depression, to attribute it to superficial instead of radical errors.

It is now sixteen or seventeen years since the working classes of this country first discovered and proclaimed that there was *some radical evil* in our social system, that was compelling the many to labor for the aggrandizement of a few, and causing labor to be rewarded in an inverse ratio to its usefulness; and within that period many minds have been engaged in discovering what that evil was, and devising plans to remove it; and it was with a view of collecting experience and knowledge on this subject that the several Conventions in New England and New York have been held, last year and this, which resulted, at the recent Convention, in the adoption of a plan of National Organization.

At the National Industrial Convention, as many as would come were assembled, of those who had been the longest engaged in the industrial movements; and who were engaged in any branch of the work of Reform; and the misguided enemies of labor might well have concluded, if on this occasion the true source of evil could not have been discovered, and the remedy proposed, that our case indeed was hopeless.

On one point there had long been no difference of opinion among the friends of Labor.—A Union was necessary, because the interests of every department of labor were inseparable; the depression of any one trade or useful occupation, bend a depressing tendency on all others. How, then, should this Union be effected? Evidently by agreeing upon the leading measure of redress that was necessary, and making that the Bond of Brotherhood.—To ascertain the measure of redress or redemption, the cause of evil must be ferretted out, and that was found to be Land Monopoly. But for Land Monopoly, every female in a factory would have a parental roof to retreat to from the oppression of capital. But for Land Monopoly, our agricultural population would not be divided into two classes, the one struggling to preserve their farm from mortgage or sale, the other toiling from "sun to sun" to obtain a scanty pittance for a dependant tenant family. But for Land Monopoly, the trades would not be crowded with apprentices, to give way when out of their time to other apprentices, and be forced into the cities to become the tenant-slaves of capital, paying half their scanty earnings in the shape of *rent*. But for Land Monopoly, the Miner and the Sailor would not be compelled to wear out a lifetime of hardship and suffering that their hard earnings might pamper to their injury, a few, wealthy monopolists. An Inalienable Freehold would be an unfailing refuge from the wrongs and oppressions now heaped upon useful labor of every description: therefore the great measure of restoring to the people, their Right to the soil, was the great measure agreed upon, by the Industrial Convention, as the Bond of Union for the useful classes, throughout the nation; and to effect that union, plans of organization adapted to every condition of labor, were adopted, to which the Convention invite the toilers and the friends of toil, everywhere.

The Convention was well aware that there are various other good measures of much interest to the working classes in agitation; but they could think of none of such general importance as that of restoring the Equal Right to the use of the Soil. They considered that the Foundation Right, the corner stone of the edifice of political Equality.

For a further exposition of the views of the Convention, particularly on the subject of Factoy Labor, permit me to refer you to the resolutions and plans of organization published in the Young America of the 18th and 25th inst, and, for my own views on Female Labor," to the Working Man's Advocate of March 1st, last, which I send herewith, I trust the machinery is now in operation that will emancipate the daughters of this Republic from the humiliating servitude, the worse than Egyptian bondage to which, to the disgrace of our sex, they are now subjected, in our cities and factory districts; and, as instruments "in aid of this glorious cause," I have no doubt the National Reformers of New York will aid in the circulation of your "Factory Tracts."

Our Election occurring here on Tuesday next, it was inconvenient for the National Reformers of this city, to send a delegation to the New England Convention, to assemble in Lowell this day. Should this reach you, before the adjournment of the convention, please assure them that we are waiting with anxious hearts, the result of their deliberations, and with the fervent hope (encouraged by their previous actions) that they will so far approve of what we have done, as to enter cordially into the National Union. With great respect,

Yours truly, George H. Evans,
Sec'y. National Industrial Convention.

From the N. Y. Young America.

National Reform Association

Mr. Evans was called to the chair. The Secretary in his place.

The Chairman read the pledge, and called particular attention to it. The more signers we can count to the pledge, the more votes we shall be likely to poll at every election. The meeting was not large, but he presumed there were some in the hall who had made up their minds that nothing *less* than a Free Soil was worth voting for, and who had not yet enrolled themselves. The terms of admission to the Association were twenty-five cents initiation, and two cents a month. The pledge may be signed without any charge, at any time during the meetings. [Two members were immediately enrolled and received their tickets.] He then announced to the meeting the organization of a new Working Men's Party in Boston, who had nominated a complete ticket. Among the measures announced he was sorry that the freemen of the Public Lands did not find a place, but the organization was a good symptom. He then read extracts from the proceedings of the recent Convention of the New-England Workingmen's Association at Lowell, from which it appeared that there was considerable difference of opinion as to the necessity of political action, which he was surprised and sorry to see. It showed the necessity of a National Organization on the plan recommended by the Industrial Convention. While the efforts of the useful classes are isolated, and they are contending against one surface evil here and another there, of course, under present influences, they must descend lower and lower, in the scale of misery. The true policy, is a general union, which shall bring their united forces to bear against present evils.

Mr. Ryckman was called to the platform. Being indisposed he should have little to say. He had hoped ere this to have seen preparations for organizing the Industrial Guards, by the selection of a uniform, and organization of Industrial Brotherhoods and Sisterhoods. No time should be lost. It appeared strange that the great measure of this Association, the Equal Right of Soil, had in a manner for several years gone a begging. That this simple solution of the Right to Labor, involving, to, almost all other rights, this ultimate of the wise and hopeful of the past, should never have been fairly held up to mankind till the organization of this Association, is one of the greatest facts in the history of the world.—(Applause.) Some might attribute this developement of an essential truth to accident, and some to design, but he considered it a divine manifestation of the progress of a strong feeling of fraternal love for man as man. To be the advocate or exponent of such a principle he considered would be sufficient glory for any one of us. For the first time in the history of civilization, have we put forward the plain and honest proposition of a Freehold Estate for every citizen, which shall make the labourer independent forever, as a substitute for a system the tendency of which is to make him the slave of hunger. (Cheers.)

The Chairman said, in reference to the remarks of the last speaker, that an Industrial Brotherhood, "Young America No. 1," *had been* organized, and that active means were in operation to extend the organization. The organization of Industrial Guards, in accordance with constitutional rights and duties, had not yet been commenced, but he hoped would be immediately, by those who feel an interest in that object.

Mr Commerford offered the following resolution, which was seconded:

Resolved, That the National Reformers of the city of New York sincerely regret, that our fellow Workingmen of New England, at their late Convention, should hesitate with regard to political action. Where or when, we ask of these men, to whom has been entrusted with the destiny of their fellow laborers, has any political party done anything, unless driven on by workingmen's parties, to advance or lighten the burdens of the oppressed? We tell our New England brethren that no remedial measures can ever reach them, until they join heart and hands with us in establishing a great Workingmen's Party.

He said, it appears by the proceedings of our New England brethren that we must take the lead in the work of reform. When they shall see the result of our next Spring and Fall elections, perhaps then they will understand what can be done by political action. The abolition of imprisonment for debt, the check to paper money, and other monopolies, and to a wasteful system of internal improvement, and whatever measures of progress have been effected, were mainly through the instrumentality of the Workingmen's party organized in 1829. If the workingmen of New England would band themselves as did the workingmen of this city in 1829, with the light of their experience, they might carry the Ten Hour system or any other measure they chose. The workingmen should chose delegates whose private interests are not superior to the just demands of generations of toilers. By the aid of such men they could at once obtain the balance of power, and then they would see what they could do by political action. He then spoke of the gratifying results of our own election, our largely increased vote, and the carrying of the Convention question, against the wishes of the wire-pullers of Tammany Hall, as was evident to all at the polls by the conduct of their ticket distributors. We have great reason to rejoice that there is to be a Convention. (Cheers.) Among the other objects to be secured by the new constitution will be the election, of Judges by the people, and he hoped the Anti-Rent counties would fight the battle manfully for the election of their delegates. The formation of Industrial Brotherhoods would do much good in relation to the new constitution, and the formation of Sisterhoods might be made the means of securing thousands of females from the necessity of a resort to Intelligence Offices, the crowds resorting to which, daily, it is melancholy to witness, and the impositions of which are enormous, though in a manner unknown to the public. He alluded then to the effects of the labor of adopted citizens in competition with that of natives. The Brotherhoods would be the means of enabling them to estimate their labor at its true value, and to induce them to act politically to make labor perfectly independent by securing its right to the soil. The Hunkers have deceived this class of our population with respect to our objects, but this deception cannot last. Our prospects on the whole are bright. We are gaining strength fast, and we have friends in Congress. In that body, from present appearances, there will be men who will clamor for a war, to obtain more land for the speculators, and such a war would throw back the movement to secure the land for the people, which would surely extend over this whole continent. Let us keep our eyes on this great measure to secure the rights of Man, and the power of monarchies will crumble like ashes before its progress. A war for Oregon would result in soldiers' patents to be speculated upon; the poor spilling their blood to swell the coffers of the rich. Our measure would produce an invincible Republic of Freeholders who might laugh at the united forces of monarchical power. Our duty is plain.

The resolution of Mr. C. was then adopted.

The Secretary stated that the remaining debt of the Association, for election, missionary, and all other expenses, is something less than $20. There is a subscription for missions of upwards of $30, part of which will probably be appropriated to pay the debt.

The Chairman suggested to the members the necessity of endeavoring to increase our numbers, as the only means provided by the constitution of securing funds to carry on our operations.

The Banner Room.—We understand that the young ladies employed in the Spinning Room of Mill No. 2, Dwight Corporation, made a very quiet, and successful "strike," on Monday. The Spinning machinery was set in motion in the morning, but there was no girls to tend it. They had heard the rumor that their wages were to be cut down, upon which they determined to quit. They silently kept their resolve, and remained out until Tuesday afternoon, when they were requested to return to their employment, with an addition to their previous wages of fifty cents per week. The Ladies connected with the other Mills, ought certainly to present them with a banner, as a tribute of esteem for thus volunteering as pioneers in the march of increasing recompense.

We also learn that notice has been given to the weavers in the same Mill, that their prices will be reduced twenty cents on a cut, upon which they gave a notice to leave.—Thus matters stand, and what the result will be we know not.

At the present prices of 90 cents per cut the weavers are enabled by great exertions to make enough to feed and clothe them, and have a small surplus, if economy is used.—The cloth being very fine, it requires a great deal of attention, and ninety cents is not any too much. But the difficulty arises from the fact that it takes the best weavers from the other Mills, and hence the restriction upon their liberties to work where they please.

We think the girls have acted rightly, and by way of encouragement, and stirring up their minds by way of remembrance, we say "stick to your text," and pursue a steady course, with a determined spirit, and you will come off victorious.—*Cabotville Chron.*

Suicide.—A lady by the name of Priscilla Titus, of this place, took a portion of oil tansy which caused her death in a short time. A love affair.—*Manchester Dem.*

Waltham, Nov. 13.

Friend Young:—This town is about 10 miles from Boston, containing 3000 inhabitants with 2 cotton factories situated on the Charles River, and employing some 500 hands. In passing through Charlestown, I visited the prison; after finding the warden, one of the Pioneers of reform, Frederic Robinson, who was engaged in reading the United States Journal (a paper published in Washington by Theophilus Fisk, formerly of this state, and a lecturer on reform, but since then, he has been publishing a paper in "Old Virginia," which I fear is too passive on the subject of slavery, for a true reformer.) Friend R. appeared to understand the merits of my mission at once. Having expressed a wish to visit the prison, he very kindly attended me through the various departments. Under the new discipline of Mr. R., the character and conduct of the prisoners has changed for the better. Instead of the iron rule of force and fear, that of love and kindness has taken its place. For a more full description of its management I might refer you to his reports. As Massachusetts leads all other states in point of moral and social reform, so is this the model prison of the union. You will notice among the crimes, one that will cause a smile, viz: breaking into states prison. Having visited Newton Upper Falls, I met with one of the open enemies to our cause. A person dressed in broadcloth and fine linen, faring sumptuously every day, and whose eyes stuck out with fatness, met me at the cotton plantation gate, and in a tyrannical manner, asked me, what right mechanics had to circulate the Voice of Industry. I was too full to answer him, but had Mike Walsh been in my place, he would probably have knocked him into the river near by, which would have taught him that rights were inalienable. This well fed loafer is probably loud in his cries of protection for the laborer, and at the same time will plunder them of one of their dearest rights, that of knowledge. O that I knew his name, that he might be held up naked to the world; but none knew him there. We shall have a good circulation in that place, if there is anything in a name, as we have a *strong* man for agent, even *Sampson* himself. Yours for the cause of the oppressed.

N. W. BROWN, Agt.

Our Mechanics—An Extract.—They are the palace builders of the world; not a stick is hewn, not a stone is shapened, in all the lordly dwellings of the rich, that does not owe its fitness and beauty to the mechanic's skill; the towering spires that raise their giddy heights among the clouds, depend upon the mechanic's art and strength for their symmetry and beauty and fair proportions; there is no article of comfort or of pleasure, but what bears the impress of their handiwork. How exalted is their calling—how sublime is their vocation! Who will sneer at such a fraternity of honorable men—who dares to cast odium upon such a patriotic race? Their path is one of true glory, and it is their own fault if it does not lead them to the highest posts of honor and renown.—*Theophilus Fisk.*

A Movement in regard to Board.—Considerable excitement has been created by the late proceedings of the Boarding House Keepers. The agents were sent for to hold a council in Boston, and were absent several days. They have been compelled to take some action, notwithstanding they had determined to do nothing, for many of the boarding masters have given up their boarders, and their help must be boarded, so that something will be done, and we anticipate a rise in the price of board, fall of rent, or something whereby they may be able to keep square with the world.

A meeting will be held at Ferry's Hall on Monday evening next, by the boarding masters, where we hope to see a goodly number of those whose feelings are enlisted with them to put down the tyranny of corporations.—*Cabotville Chron.*

Indolence.—When a man has nothing but leisure, indolence overspreads the whole of his time. He does nothing. He grows moody and gloomy. His spirits sink and languish into lethargy; and his parts, being in no motion, are of no use to him. But strengthen him by business, and you put his spirits in motion. He is full of elacrity. He has in reality, more leisure than he had when he had nothing but leisure. Divide his time into portions; distribute some for business, others for pleasure, and he has a landmark to direct himself by. His life has a determined course like water enclosed by its banks. But leave him to himself—give him nothing but indolence, and his life is no longer like a stream that flows along. It has no channel—it has no current: it is like a stagnant piece of water, not confined by any thing; and yet having no inlet. At first it is a port—a mere marsh; but as it widens, and largens, and deepens, it expands into an extensive area—an immense lake, without motion, without tide—having in it none of the elements of life, but all those of death and destruction—a dead sea.

The execution of Andrew Howard, which was to have taken place at Dover, N. H. yesterday, has been respited till the 8th of July next.

Mr. Walsh, the correspondent, at Paris, of the National Intelligencer, writes that a visiter, likely to be well informed, mentioned to him the creating of a company in Paris, with a capital of twelve millions of francs, for the purchase and settlement of lands in the West.

☞ A young lady, employed as a weaver by the Middlesex corporation of this City, broke some vessel in her stomach, while engaged at her loom on Tuesday afternoon, and immediately fainted. She continued very distressed throughout the night, and is thought to be dangerously injured. *Factory labor is said to be "light."*

ESPECIAL NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

☞ All persons wishing to discontinue their papers, will inform us, by returning one of the same. All arrearages must first be paid, which can be done through the Mail—*Post paid.*

☞ Workingmen's Meetings,—Every Monday and Thursday evenings, at No. 76, Central St. Also Female Labor Reform meetings, every Tuesday evening at the same place. Let them be well attended.

ELECTION—SECOND TRIAL.

Monday next is the day fixed upon to fill vacancies existing in the list of Representatives, belonging to this City. Below we insert the names of the Workingmen's candidates, expressing a desire that the Laborers of Lowell, may aquit themselves with as much honor, and with as little pomp and clamor, as at the last election.

Let every Workingman do his duty, and if their candidates cannot be elected, prevent the election of those who are avowed enemies to the rights of Labor.

Work worth the attention of men, should always be prosecuted in a manly spirit.

ABIJAH WATSON, Hardware Dealer.
J. G. PEABODY, Housewright.
APOLLOS PERKINS, Carpenter.
ARTEMAS BEDLOW, Shoemaker.

The following persons have been chosen Directors for the publication of this paper.

George W. Hatch, West Roxbury,
Levi B. Parker, East Bridgewater,
Wm. D. Leavitt, Woburn,
John S. Fletcher, } Lowell,
Sarah G. Bagley, } Lowell,
Edward C. Darling, } Lynn.
H. J. Chenoweth, } Lynn.

☞ Cyrus Hall is authorised to act as Agent for the Voice in this City. Will our people crown his efforts with abundant success.

☞ THE VOICE IS FOR SALE,

at most of the Book and Periodical Stores in the City. Also, by Cyrus Hall. In Fitchburg at S. & C. Shepley's Bookstore, and L. Pratts, No. 5, Rollstone Block.

Let it be Remembered—That this paper is upon a firm and permanent basis, a large number of responsible individuals, being personally obligated for its regular issue. Therefore, we trust our friends will not delay sending in their names for one year's subscription, together with the $1,00 for the same.

The New England Workingmen's Association stands adjourned to meet in the Town of Lynn the third Friday of January.

Will all papers friendly please copy.

NOTICE.

☞ The Laborers' Union Association, hold their regular meetings every Thursday Evening, at 76, Central street, for the purpose of discussing questions of general interest to Workingmen. Those interested are respectfully invited to attend.

NOTICE.

THE LABORERS' UNION ASSOCIATION, at South Boston, holds its regular meetings every Thursday Evening, at the "Barker's Building" on 4th street, near "South free bridge," and all who feel interested in the welfare of the producing classes, are cordially invited to attend.

The Library, is open every Saturday Evening for the delivery of books.

Subscriptions to the Library $2,00 a year, for Gentlemen, one dollar for Ladies. A relief fund is also attached to the Association, for relief of sick and destitute members.

NOTICE.

☞ The Industrial Reform Association of Lowell, hold their meetings on Monday Evening of each week, at 8 o'clock, at 76, Corner of Central and Hurd Streets, and all who feel interested in the welfare of the producing classes, are cordially inited to attend.

Per Order

Lowell, Aug. 28. JOHN SAWTELL, Sec'y.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, Nov. 14th, Mr. William G. Winnek to Miss Deborah G. Langley.

Nov. 18th, by Rev. Lemuel Porter, Mr. Ninian Cochran to Miss Ach[illegible] Waterman, both of Manchester, N. H.

In Dracutt, [illegible] Mr. Abel Coburn to Miss Julia A. Varnu[illegible]

In Woburn, [illegible] D. Leathe, of Cambridgeport, to Miss S. [illegible] of Woburn.

In Nashville, [illegible] by Judge Gove, Captain Samuel Smith of Pepperell to Miss Dorcas B. Hardy of Nashua.

DEATHS.

In Windam, 13th inst., Henry, only son of Smith P. and Marinda Davidson, aged 2 years.

In Acworth, Oct. 31, Capt James Warner of that town in the 69th year of his age.

PROSPECTUS
OF THE
VOICE OF INDUSTRY,
THE PEOPLE'S PAPER,
ORGAN OF THE NEW ENGLAND WORKINGMEN'S ASSOCIATION.
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY, AT NO. 76, CENTRAL STREET, LOWELL, MASS.

Devoted to the abolition of Mental, Moral and Physical Servitude, in all their complicated forms and the interests of the INDUSTRIAL CLASSES.

The Voice will contain a Female Department, under the immediate supervision of the Lowell Female Labor Reform Association, and be supported by contributions from the Operatives of this city and other manufacturing towns. Let no Workingman or Women or friend of those who "toil and spin" and produce all the wealth of the nation, fail of becoming subscribers.

☞ Price—$1,00 *Per Year in Advance*

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ADDRESS OF MR. WAIT OF Ill.

On taking the Chair of the National Industrial Convention.

TUESDAY, OCT. 14, 1845.

Concluded.

This fatal ignorance of the law is so common, and has so long been overlooked entirely, or considered necessary and unavoidable, that we seldom dwell upon its influence on the interests of society. But is it not reasonable to suppose that if legislation and the administration of the laws are left to a few, who are alone competent to discharge these necessary duties, the interest of that few will be subserved at the expense of the people? The enactment of laws and the whole administration of justice is a trade which is for the most part limited to a class in society who are educated for that vocation.

The necessary division of labor which is required in the mechanic arts, and in the useful professions, can never be safely applied to legislation, because that object embraces every employment and every condition in life. The interest of every citizen is equally affected by the good or bad administration of the government, and it is equally the duty of all to hold its operations under a rigid supervision. The business transactions of the community are perfectly understood by intelligent men, and when differences of opinion occur, a jury composed of honest citizens find no difficulty in settling the question upon equitable principles. Law can do no more to promote the ends of justice; whilst arbitrary and conflicting statutes, or a formidable array of precedents with the usual accompaniment of professional ingenuity, are as likely to subvert justice as to promote it. Complicated cases frequently arise which seem to require great professional skill, but it is the uncertainty and ambiguity of law which makes them complicated. It is a slander upon the present generation of men, and upon the intelligence of free America, to say that we are incapable of composing our domestic differences without complicated statutory provisions, or without recurring to the practice which prevailed centuries ago amongst a semi-barbarous people, and under an arbitrary government.

Were it in my power to do this subject justice, our time does not admit of it; but it is important that we should all be fully possessed of the fact that the laws in this country, like the laws under many other governments which promise less, are made not by the people nor for the benefit of the people, but to favor a prominent few.

No reform can be effectual that does not embrace a thorough revision of our constitutions and laws, because, under them as they now exist, the government of the country is in the hands of associated wealth, and entirely beyond the control of the mass of the people, who are merely its victims.

The prominent measure recommended by the National Reform Association, to make the public land free to the landless citizen, is a tangible object which can scarcely fail to meet the approbation of every honest and reflecting citizen, and it leads at once to a consideration of the parent evil in our social system; the monopoly of a few, and the destitution of the many.

This state of things could never have taken place amongst an intelligent people, had we not adopted, without reflection, the laws of an arbitrary government, which had their foundation not in the will and the wants of the industrious citizen, but in the will of a class that were bent upon sustaining themselves upon the labor of other men. The laws relative to property were adopted with no essential modification from such as prevail in Great Britain, and they have the effect of creating an aristocracy of wealth which must prove as fatal to liberty as the worst form of despotism. The industrious but conscientious man who would fulfil the duties of a good citizen, struggles through life with labor and difficulty, whilst his less scrupulous neighbor, who sacrifice all the charities of life to the lust of gain, becomes rich. With this result we are all familiar, and with the fear of destitution before us, we all cultivate the talent of acquiring property, and neglect the better faculties of man. We *must* do this or starve. This abuse of our moral and physical nature would be remedied at once, were we not in the habit of neglect of the first, the most solemn, and imperative duty of American citizens—that is to possess a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of a free government, and maintain a vigilant supervision of every essential feature in its operation. But we turn our backs upon the whole, the acts of our national legislature, the laws of our State, the whole system of Federal and State jurisprudence, is a sealed book to the great mass of the American people—and whilst boasting of our free institutions and our right of self-government, we are cringing and perishing under the influence of laws that we never made—never consented to—and never understood.

The greatest abuse, however, is in the Right of Property. This is an important right, and it should be placed on a sure and just foundation. It is a right which can be justly wrested from no one. But under the sanction of certain legal forms, we permit the accumulation of property to an unlimited amount in the hands of individuals and corporate bodies, whilst the moderate acquisitions of honest labor are difficult and insecure. Instances are known in our country, of individual proprietors who possess the title to more than a hundred thousand acres of land, whilst millions of our deserving and industrious citizens are unable to procure one acre or even one square rod of their mother earth. Here the inequality is striking, and can be reconciled to no just conceptions of natural right; yet the law makes the title to such vast tracts as sure and unalienable to the individual, as the moderate sized estate to the hardworking farmer. In such case, let it be remarked, the large proprietor holds only by process of law; he cannot occupy or appropriate to his own use and cultivation but a moderate portion of land; beyond this quantity it is valuable to him only so far as he can command the labor of others. It is the same relative to all other property. So much as I can fairly appropriate to my own use, with a suitable regard to the rights of others, may be justly claimed as my own. If I overleap that bound, the value to me is not in the property, since I can make no use of it but in the bodies of other men, my brethren and equals under the Declaration of Rights, whose labor I command not by any natural right, but by constitutional and legal duress. Money invested in banking, insurance, railway and other stocks, is immediately dissipated by the wants of the community, and its value consists in the legal claim which is retained upon the labor and enterprise of our fellow-citizens. Without that labor it would be useless; and that labor could never be commanded did every industrious citizen possess that rightful portion of his mother earth which belongs to him, not by virtue of his reputed father or mother, nor by the force or the fictions of law, but by inheritance from that great Heavenly Father who has provided abundantly for all His children.—To present the subject of natural rights and conventional wrongs in another aspect. No individual can justly throw himself upon society for his physical sustenance. Unless he contributes to the common fund by useful labor, whether of the head or the hands, he is a drone and a nuisance—he is guilty of equal wrong to the public, as if he were to commit an overt act of theft, and the example is no less detrimental to the moral habits of the rising generation. While life continues the human body is subject to animal wants which must be supplied. We cannot earn and consume one great breakfast, dinner and supper which will suffice for our natural life, or put on one garment, or light one fire which are to perish only with the vital organs. The supply must be created and furnished from day to day and year to year. Now show me the free ticket which exempts one sound member of the human family from his portion of this indispensable task which heaven has allotted to every son of man?

What answer does the rich man make to this question? Does he turn to the Declaration of American Independence? No! hands off! he can find nothing to sustain him there. Does he appeal to any consideration of equal rights, of justice between man and man? No! But he sets before me the Constitutions of the United States and of my own State; he points to the inexplicable chaos of Federal and State legislation, both general and special; he points, also, (alas, that I should say it,) to the laws of England, and cries, search those volumes, they contain my immunity. What rejoinder can I urge?

But, thank Heaven, the people still have rights, although many seem willing to forget it; and fortunately for us we can neither sell them nor give them away.—We are all equal, not under our constitution nor our laws, but under our Declaration of Independence and in the sight of God. We have the right to bear arms, we have the right of revolution—all of us and every man alike. Do not let any man forget his own importance in society.

Let us say to the most poor and humble of our brethren, whose heart is grievously chastened if not broken by unmerited suffering—"you are still a man, and entitled to all the rights of an American citizen. Exercise them boldly and with judgment, for upon your shoulders equally with that of every freeman the destiny of the nation rests. You are a sovereign—the President of the United States is your servant—an agent to execute your will. Under every discouragement and every reverse, never for one moment forget your worth, your dignity, nor your duty to your country, to your fellow-citizen, and to yourself. The social condition of society is bad, we are all sufferers under its injustice, we rely confidently on your support and assistance in every just effort to make it better."

But it is not those alone who are doomed to some laborious employment for an adequate compensation that the evils of the existing constitutions of society overwhelm with their heavy curse. Since there is no limit to the acquisition of property, our intelligent youth are educated in the belief that it is their duty, if possible, to become rich. Thousands daily embark in mercantile pursuits, with the moderate expectation of obtaining a comfortable subsistence only, but with the determination of becoming very rich. Whatever may be their talents, whatever their industry and frugality, a proportion not less than ninety-nine in every hundred muts be disappointed because all cannot be rich, and under the existing constitution of society a very limited portion of the greediest aspirants for wealth can be successful. Here, then, remark how great a number of disappointed, perhaps discouraged and broken-hearted men, that one cormorant may be glutted with riches. Men who possess talents for business find no difficulty in obtaining the use of money, for capitalists who have money must lend it, or it remains useless in their hands. Whilst business seems prosperous they are elated with the prospect of large profits, and indulge in expensive habits. Their families are frequently raised in idleness, more especially the female portions of them; a reverse of fortune happens—the father is bankrupt, perhaps dies. What becomes then of the helpless family? Some angels of charity may save them, but how many are now the tenants of wretched garrets and noisome cellars, or of receptacles still more fearful?

"The big fish eat up the little ones." This is a very common saying as applied to men in comparative stages of wealth. Many of our extensive dealers feel the justice of its application to their own case. They fail in business, whether from improvidence or unavoidable circumstances. The rich man, or the bank which has afforded them facilities for the transaction of business, must be paid. After passing through the mill of insolvency, if enough of courage and talent and animal force is left to commence anew, they are again accommodated with the requisite facilities. A second or a third disaster befalls an enterprising man, but he is set upon his legs again so long as he bids fair to prove a profitable customer to the bank. But when broken down by hard service, he is cast off without one qualm of conscience to live as he can or die. Thousands are thus wearing out their lives to swell the dividends of a bank. Yes, there are hundreds perhaps thousands, in this city who would be glad to shake off this harness which is galling them to the quick, could they flee to a spot of green earth which they might call their own.

Professional men, and every condition in society, labor under their peculiar disadvantages in consequence of the inequality which pervades the whole; and this evil is materially aggrevated by the universally admitted fact, that overgrown wealth is generally employed to promote sensual gratification. The moral character and the health of the possessor is too often a victim to the indulgence which riches encourage, and this bad example has a baneful effect upon the young and unreflecting portion of every community where it is seen or felt.

Nothing could be more true than the remark, that no one portion of any community can suffer injustice, without ultimate injury to the whole; and although the mass of society which is submitted so immediately to the crushing of the nether millstone is naturally the *first* to cry out, there is reason to hope that the necessity of a reform which may renovate the entire organization of society will be consented to by every friend of humanity, in whatever condition of life his lot may have been cast.

Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence, and the steady and inflexible advocate of the rights of man. Whilst a member of the Continental Congress, and during the progress of the Revolutionary War, he made use of these remarkable words:

"It can never be too often repeated, that the time for fixing every essential right upon a legal basis, is while our rulers are honest, and ourselves united. From the conclusion of this war we shall be going down hill. It will not then be necessary to resort every moment to the people for support. They will be forgotton, therefore, and there rights disregarded. They will forget themselves, but in the sole faculty of making money, and will not think of uniting to effect a due respect of their rights. The shackles, therefore, which shall not be knocked off at the conclusion of this war, will remain on as long—will be made heavier and heavier, till our rights shall revive, or expire, in a convulsion."

Let us hope that the brighter vision, at least, of this prophecy is about to be fulfilled.

A Churn has been invented in Northampton, Mass, which it is said requires only to be wound up and set in motion, and the butter comes out ready for use, while the good housewife employs herself with knitting.

LABOR AND CAPITAL.—It is surprising to hear capitalists talk of protecting capital, that we must aid manufacturers, for, through them all classes will be benefitted, and capital requires a friend in the government of the country to defend and protect it.

Capital can always protect itself; and if trade were left free to regulate itself, every one would be benefitted. But avarice steps in, and seeks from the federal politicians artificial aid, or the strong arm of the law; and wealth has labor within its own grasp and power. The labor of the industrious operatives supports themselves and their families; and all the wealth consumed by themselves and other classes is produced by that labor. The labor of the toiling man is usually sold in a market where adversity, and not prosperity finds him. Every aid of the legislature extended to capital, whether by tariffs or bounties, reduces the value of labor—for every tariff is a tax on industry. Every aid to mammoth manufactories cripples the country operatives, and all artificial operations which supersede manual labor come in competition with it, lessen the power of producing, and sooner or later must reduce the mechanic to the lowest stage of existence. In fact, the eastern manufactures have nearly monopolized all the business of western weavers, shoe makers, hatters, carders, fullers, clothiers, coach-makers, &c.—and why? Because tariffs excite large capitalists, who love exorbitant profits, to go to manufacturing; and as machinery comes in competition with labor, hundreds are thrown out of employment, and wages fall. As machinery is extended through the various departments of production, the value of labor is more and more diminished; and this is the cause of the distresses of the poor in our eastern cities. A superabundance of any article ruins the small manufacturer, and ambarasses the poor. Look at England. With a vast overplus of every manufactured article, with every comfort and luxury which is cheap for the man of wealth, yet the laboring classes, who created all the wealth, are afflicted with extreme poverty and misery. The new aids brought to bear on manufactures, mechanics, and chemistry, is silently effecting the greatest revolution that ever occurred. The division of human labor, once so necessary to insure wealth and happiness, is beginning to deterioate many, mentally and physically, and must soon be unnecessary.—Improved machinery and chemical science have been directed to multiply the number of scientific hands, who do one hundred times the labor of those formed by nature forty years ago. Machinery in Great Britain alone does the work of 600,000,000 active men. And yet the height is not obtained. Manufacturers are seeking every aid and new light to perfect machinery, and deprive the laboring man of employment and wages. With such facts before our avaricious or timid politicians, they still continue to legislate for capital and compel the laborer to "beg leave to toil!" More anon.—*Clairsville Gazette.*

MACHINERY VERSUS PHYSICAL LABOR.—Mr. Owen said on Thursday at the National Association of Inventors, that so great had been the improvements in machinery that 3500 men with its aid could accomplish as much as could be done without machinery 50 years ago with 600,000 men, or that human invention had created a power equal to three times the manual labor of the globe.

PEEL AND WELLINGTON.—Late accounts from England strongly insinuate that the British Premier and the Duke of Wellington pull against each other in the political harness.—Peel it is said favors a modification or repeal of the Corn Laws—the Duke sustains the aristocracy or landed interest. The Premier is in favor of conciliating Ireland by a reasonable course of policy. The Duke is an inveterate Orange-man, and would increase pains and penalties rather than remove them. Peel is cool, but firm and determined, and such is the peculiar crisis in England, that Wellington with all his impetuosity and rashness will be subdued. Report says, that both have tendered their resignations to the Queen, but she refused to accept them. The matter will rest till parliament meets.

NEWSPAPERS AT HOME.—Sir John Herschel says, of all the amusements which can possibly be immagined for a workingman, after his daily toils, or in its intervals, there is nothing like reading an entertaining newspaper. It calls for no bodily exertion, of which he has had enough, or too much. It relieves his home of its dullness and sameness, which in nine cases out of ten, is what drives him out to the ale-house, to his own ruin and his family's. It transports him into a livelier, and gayer, and more diversified and interesting scene; and while he enjoys himself there, he may forget the evils of the present moment, fully as much as if he were ever so drunk, with the great advantages of finding himself the next day with his money in his pocket, or; at least, laid out in real necessaries and comforts for himself and his family, and without a headache. Nay, it accompanies him in his next day,s work, and if the paper he has been reading, be anything above the very idlest and lightest, gives him something to think of besides the mechanical drudgery of his every day occupation—something he can enjoy while absent, and look forward with pleasure to return to.

THE TRUE REFORMER.—The true and valuable Reformer, the American Reformer, is not a man of mere faith, without works and without sense. Having hit upon a favorite theory, he does not resolve at once to force it upon the world, without reference to the existing state of things, and with no regard to time or consequences. He sees the human race struggling as it has struggled for thousands of years, to ascend the steep and rugged heights, on the summit of which it hopes to enjoy peace and happiness, and although with the eye of faith he may look beyond the clouds and darkness, and gain a view of the resplendant glories which encircle the brow of this lofty mountain, still he does not with reckless and fanatical haste risk all that has been gained by springing forward to reach the object at a single bound, the consequence of which would be to precipitate him back to the foot of the hill to commence the journey anew.—On the contrary he toils on with patience, caution and deliberation. He takes care to keep all that has been acquired. He looks well to his footing, and before leaving the spot on which he stands, finds a safe and secure buttress of the rock on which to plant his next onward and upward step.—*N. Y. News.*

Dr. Chilton, the chemist, in Broadway, has a living chameleon, just arrived from Borneo. It changes its colors almost momentarily, at times. It has the appearance of a lizard, is about sixteen inches in length, and perhaps three or four in circumference. It feeds on flies and other insects, which it catches with its tongue, darting it out with the velocity of lightning, and with unerring accuracy a distance of at least a foot.—*N. Y. News.*

TRIUMPH OF AMERICAN SKILL.—We have seen at the depot of the Harrisburgh and Lancaster Railroad, a quantity of the T Rail, manufactured at the Montour Iron Works, in Danville, entirely of Anthracite Iron, which, for beauty of make and finish surpasses the English. The rails are 18 feet in length, and weigh 51 pounds to the yard; and it is believed that the material of which they are formed, is superior to that used in the English rail.—They are made for the Harrisburgh and Lancaster Railroad Company, who are now engaged in completing the laying down of their new track with them. Upward of 200 tons of these rails have been completed and sent down for this purpose, and the work of laying the rails is to progress with all possible rapidity. We understand that the Montour Company intend manufacturing from 10,000 to 12,000 tons of this kind of rail per year.—*Harrisburg Telegraph.*

ANTI-RENTERS IN CANADA.—The Government of Canada has made a demand upon the occupiers and lessees of Clergy Reserves in the township of Augusta, C. W. for "Back Rents" and Interest. Disputes about the rightful ownership of these lands have existed for years, and their proper management has therefore been neglected.

The Tenants held a meeting on the subject and assumed a threatening attitude. They have "unanimously resolved" "never to submit to the payment of such an unreasonable demand;" and invite all the occupiers of Clergy Reserves "to resist by all constitutional means the payment of "Back Rents and Interest on such Lands," at the same time proffering to all disposed thus to act, their "cordial support and co-operation in the struggle."

NOTHING LOST.—It is well said that nothing is lost. The drop of water which is spilt, the fragment of paper which is burnt, the plant that rots on the ground, all that perishes and is forgotten, equally seeks the atmosphere and ali is there preserved, and thence daily returned for use.—*McCulloch.*

The territory of Oregon contains 800,000 square miles which is extent enough to form seven States as large as New York. It extends 700 miles along the Rocky Mountains on the east, 300 miles along the Snowy Mountains on the south, 700 miles along the Pacific Ocean and 340 miles along the possessions of Russia and England on the north. Some of the islands on the coast of the Pacific are very large.

WHAT IS IT?—"A Mechanic," in the Philadelphia Ledger, says that two gentleman of that State have invented a new method of roofing houses, more durable than shingles, slate or tin, as glass, fire-proof and water-proof; red, blue, yellow green, or any other color that may be desired; a non-conductor of electricity, a reflector of heat; cheaper than tin, lighter than slate; being virtified, it is almost indestructible by time or weather, and so easily put on that the largest roof can be covered in a single day, if desired. It requires very little descent; a roof covered with this material may be made as flat as any tin roof, without the least danger of leaking. Nothing short of actual violence will injure it. Should it come into general use, our cities will outshine the Kremlin or Moscow. When a house with a slate roof is on fire, slates fly so that firemen are in great danger, should they come near it; but this article having passed through the fire in the process of manufacture, is not liable to this objection; its durability is such that it will last as long as the house.

Some thief has stolen a coat from a Cincinnati editor; the thief is known, but cannot expose him lest he should expose the *coat* also.

FOR 1846.

PROSPECTUS FOR VOL. VII.
OF THE
AMERICAN PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL.

TO reform and perfect man—to bring out by culture the original beauties and capabilities of his nature, are objects the most exalted that can possible engross humanity. But, to do this either effectually or correctly, that nature must be known, and as Phrenology is the science of human nature, and especially of man's intellectual and moral constitution, it evolves all the elementary principles of his nature—thereby embodying all the laws of his being, all the conditions of happiness, and all the causes of all his sufferings, as well as of all the evils that afflict society; and all this so plain that "he that runs may read," and so beautiful as to excite our highest admiration. It also furnishes the only true test and touch-stone by which to try every doctrine and practice of the age, and indeed, of all past and all coming—every theory of society, every question of ethics, of morals, of logic, of equity, and even of religious creeds and practices; for, by developing fully and clearly the primitive nature and constitution of man, and that in all its ramifications, it arranges, before the tribunal of that nature, every thing appertaining to man; approving whatever conflicts therewith.

The accompanying numbers of this periodical, as well as its three last volumes, will serve as samples of its future course, excepting that the following important departments will be added.

1st that of Physiology. Though, for several years, the Journal has contained more or less physiological fact and information, yet its space has been too much occupied otherwise to give that full attention to the exposition and enforcing of the laws of animal life, including the value of health and the means of regaining and preserving it, which their importance demands. To know and obey these laws, lies at the basis of all human improvement and happiness; for, be it remembered, that life and health depend thereon, and on them depend all our pleasures, whether mental or physical. Even intellectual attainments and moral progression must be accompanied by physiological, especially cerable, improvement. The connection of Physology with mentality—the different states of body as inducing their corresponding states of mind—have been almost completely overlooked, even by Phrenologists themselves.

Our talents, our virtues, our vices, our mental and moral progression, depend more upon what, how and when, we eat, drink, sleep, labor, bathe, &c.—upon our physical habits and physiological condition—than most people suppose. The plain fact is, few people know how to eat! or sleep! or breathe! or live! If they did, sickness would be unknown, and sin comparatively banished from our world. Those physiological conditions, therefore, which affect mind and morals, will be freely discussed in this volume.

2nd. That of Animal Magnetism, or the vital principle. So indissolubly is this science connected with both Phrenology and Physiology, that neither should ever be pursued without the other. At least every student of the latter sciences who prosecutes his investigations unguided by the light of this new star of human science, but gropes his way in comparative darkness. Surprisingly beautiful and philosophical, as well as rich in lessons of health and happiness, are the discoveries evolved by applying magnetism to phrenological and physiological investigations. And surely, as a remedial agent, this application exceeds, and will eventually supersede, all others. Aware of no work or periodical which covers this most interesting, most important field of human inquiry, the Editor intends to occupy it, at least, partially, in this volume.

3d. A department devoted to woman. To improve her, is to benefit the human race, whilst her degeneracy detoriates it. Female education—nearly every thing appertaining to her—is now effecting her ruin as fast as the rapid flight of time will allow. Long enough has her vanity been inflated with the gaudy, the artificial, and the fashionable. Too long already, have her exquisite sensibilities been perverted, and the beauties and graces of her nature been converted either into play-things—mere toys for man to sport with—or else prostituted at the shrine of the worst of human passions. Infinitely more perfect, more prolific than any human thing ever yet beheld by mortals, are the natural charms and beauties of the female charactrr. But, they have yet to be brought out. To do this effectually, her nature and capabilities must be known. These, her Phrenology and Physiology will reveal; in doing which they will also disclose her true sphere, and her consequent duties. To this eventful subject—and none can be more prolific of good to man—will a portion of this volume be dedicated. Nor will mothers, in their distinctive relations as mothers, be neglected.

Those at all acquainted with the Editor's style of writing or lecturing, will readily comprehend his manner of treating these and other subjects that come appropriately within the wide range of phrenological, physiological and magnetic science. Our field is indeed the world. Not only is it already ripe for the harvest, but it is becoming corrupted and all overgrown with the tares of uncleanliness and the thistle of sin. To receive the good into vessels, will be the object of every successive number of this work. Those, therefore, who drop tears of sorrow over fallen humanity, or who would lend a helping hand to its restoration, may perhaps do good as effectually by circulating this work as in any other way; for its pages will embody both the seeds and the crop of all reform—human improvement and happiness are designed to be inscribed on its page, its every line.

Nor, in this long line of subjects, will the practical department of phrenological science—its principles, its facts its philosophy, or information requisite for furthering the progress of amateurs, be neglected.

And since nothing—neither the acquisition of any species of knowledge, nor the possession of any form or degree of wealth, or honor, or any possession whatever—can as effectually benefit, or as deeply interest every member of the human family, as will that knowledge of our nature imparted by Phrenology, which renders it the science for "the million;" and since it is proper and desirable that a monthly Journal, devoted to this science, should be accessible to all—to the poor as well as to the rich, to the illiterate, as well as to the scientific—this Journal will be furnished on the following extremely low

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